LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

1. (Previously presented) A system for enabling network users to determine a real-time status of one or more target network users and to establish communications with the one or more target network users using a user indicator that is presented using two or more types of applications, the system comprising:

user indicator presentation means for enabling presentation of at least one user indicator within two or more types of electronic documents, wherein the electronic document types are capable of being generated using the two or more types of applications and wherein each user indicator is associated with the one or more target network users;

status presenting means for presenting status indicators associated with corresponding user indicators to provide the real-time status of the one or more target network users; and

communication means for enabling the network users to initiate communications with the one or more target network users upon selection of the desired user indicator.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising preference presentation means for presenting the network users preference for receiving communications.

3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising updating means for updating the real-time status of the one or more target network users.

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising conference communication means for enabling the network users to establish conference communications with the one or more target network users.

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the conference communication means enable the network users to share at least one application.

6. (Previously presented) A method for enabling network users to determine a real-time status of one or more target network users and to establish communications with the one or more target network users using a user indicator, the system comprising the steps of:

generating two or more types of electronic documents using two or more types of applications;

presenting one or more user indicators within the two or more types of electronic documents, each user indicator being associated with at least one network user;

presenting the real-time status of the one or more target network users associated with the one or more user indicators via the two or more types of applications, the real-time status including an availability of the one or more target network users to engage in a communication; and

establishing a communication link with the one or more target network users based on the indicated availability of the one or more target network users.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of enabling the one or more target network users to establish one or more communication preferences.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of updating the real-time status of the one or more target network users.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of enabling the network users to share at least one application.

10. (Previously presented) A system for enabling network users to determine a real-time status of one or more target network users and to establish communications with the one or more target network users using a user indicator, the system comprising:

a user indicator presentation module for presenting at least one user indicator within two or more types of electronic documents, wherein the electronic document types are capable of being generated using two or more types of applications and wherein each user indicator is associated with at least one target network user;

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a status determining module that determines the real-time status of the one or more target network users including an availability of the one or more target network users to engage in a communication; and

a communication module that establishes a communication link with the one or more target network users based on the determined availability of the one or more target network users presented by the two or more types of applications.

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10, further comprising a communication options preference presentation module that presents the network users preference for receiving communications.

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10, further comprising a status updating module that updates the real-time status of the one or more target network users.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10, further comprising a conference communication module that enables the network users to establish conference communications with the one or more target network users.

14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the conference communication module enables the network users to share at least one application.

15. (Previously presented) A processor readable medium having processor readable code embodied therein for enabling at least one network user to obtain a real-time status of one or more target network users and establish a communication link using the real-time status of one or more target network users comprising:

processor readable code that causes a processor to enable the at least one network user to generate two or more types of electronic documents using two or more types of applications;

processor readable code that causes the processor to present at least one user indicator within the two or more types of electronic documents, each user indicator being associated with the one or more target network users;

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processor readable code that causes the processor to provide the real-time status of the one or more target network users including an availability of the one or more target network users to engage in a communication; and

processor readable code that causes the processor to establish a communication link with the one or more target network users, based on the indicated availability of the one or more target network users presented by the two or more types of applications.

16. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 15, further comprising processor readable code that causes the processor to present a preference of the at least one network user to receive communications.

17. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 16, further comprising processor readable code that causes the processor to enable the one or more target network users to prioritize the preferences.

18. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 15, further comprising processor readable program code that causes the processor to update the real-time status of the one or more target network users.

19. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 15, further comprising processor readable code that causes the processor to enable the at least one network user to establish conference communications with the one or more target network users.

20. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 15, wherein the processor readable code enables the at least one network user to share at least one application upon establishing conference communications.

21. (Previously presented) A system for enabling network users to determine a real-time status of one or more target network users and to establish communications with the one or more target network users using a user indicator, the system comprising:

a user indicator presentation module associated with a first type of application for presenting at least one user indicator within two or more types of electronic documents, wherein the electronic document types are capable of being generated using two or more types of applications and wherein each user indicator is associated with at least one target network user;

a status determining module associated with a second type of application that determines the real-time status of the one or more target network users including an availability of the one or more target network users to engage in a communication, wherein the first application type and the second application type are different application types; and

a communication module that establishes a communication link with the one or more target network users based on the determined availability of the one or more target network users presented by the two or more types of applications.

22. (Previously presented) A system for enabling network users to determine a real-time status of one or more target network users and to establish communications with the one or more target network users using a user indicator, the system comprising:

a user indicator presentation module for presenting at least one user indicator within two or more types of electronic documents, wherein electronic document types are capable of being generated using two or more types of non-HTML applications, each user indicator being associated with at least one target network user;

a status determining module that determines the real-time status of the one or more target network users including an availability of the one or more target network users to engage in a communication; and

a communication module that establishes a communication link with the one or more target network users based on the determined availability of the one or more target network users presented by the two or more types of non-HTML applications.

23. (Previously presented) A system for enabling network users to determine a real-time status of a plurality of target network users and to establish communications with one or more of the plurality of target network users using two or more user indicators presented in two or more types of documents generated by two or more types of applications, the system comprising:

a user directory that includes user information that corresponds to the plurality of target network users, wherein the user information includes user indicators;

documents generated by the two or more types of applications, wherein each document includes at least two user depictions associated with at least two target network users;

an identification determining module that references the user directory to access at least two user indicators that correspond to the at least two target network users associated with the at least two user depictions included in the documents;

a user indicator presentation module that presents the at least two user indicators within the documents, wherein the user indicator presentation module is capable of presenting the at least two user indicators within the two or more types of electronic documents that are capable of being generated using the two or more types of applications;

a status determining module that determines real-time statuses of the at least two target network users including an availability of the at least two target network users to engage in a communication; and

a communication module that establishes a communication link with one or more of the at least two target network users based on the determined availability of the at least two target network users presented by the two or more types of applications.